

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, IN

SUBJECT: FERTILIZER RESOLUTION AT UNGA

FROM AMBASSADOR MARTIN TO AMBASSADOR FERGUSON

1. RE FERTILIZER RESOLUTION AT UNGA, BELIEVE IT ESSENTIAL FOR SPONSORS, ESPECIALLY THOSE FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN NEED FOR FOREIGN EXCHANGE TO IMPORT FERTILIZERS AND NEED TO HAVE MORE FERTILIZERS PHYSICALLY AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE.

2. FIRST IS JUST PART, A VARYING PART FROM POOR COUNTRY TO COUNTRY AND OFTEN SMALL PART OF GENERAL SCARCITY OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE. WAYS MUST BE FOUND TO REDUCE THIS PROBLEM FROM ITS PRESENT CRISIS LEVEL IN MANY OF THE POOREST COUNTRIES. BUT BEST WAY IS TO DEAL WITH IT DIRECTLY AND OVERALL AND NOT THROUGH PIECEMEAL ATTEMPTS TO DOLE OUT MONEY FROM ONE SPIGOT FOR FERTILIZER, ANOTHER FOR FOOD, ANOTHER FOR OIL, ETC. THIS IS PATH TO CHAOS, DISCRIMINATION AND DISASTER.

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3. SECOND IS MOST CRITICAL ISSUE. THERE ARE ONLY TWO
WAYS GET MORE NITROGEN AND PHOSPHATE FERTILIZERS TO
COUNTRIES NEEDING THEM. ONE IS TO INCREASE OUTPUT AT

AT EXISTING LDC PLANTS NOW OPERATING AT 50-60 PERCENT
CAPACITY. ALL HELP POSSIBLE FROM HOST GOVERNMENTS AND
OUTSIDERS NEEDED FOR THIS. SECOND IS TO LIMIT USE OF
FERTILIZER BY FARMERS OF BETTER OFF COUNTRIES SO HARD HIT
CAN GET MORE. WHAT CUTS HAVE NEW ZEALAND, FOR EXAMPLE,
PROPOSED FOR HER FARMERS? ESSENTIAL HAVE INTERNATIONAL
COOPERATION ON THIS SO RESTRAINT BY ONE DOESN'T JUST
RELEASE FERTILIZER TO OTHER COUNTRY WITH GOOD CONNECTIONS.
KISSINGER

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